

REMARKS

In response to the Restriction Requirement of September 20, 2005, Applicants elect, with traverse, the invention II directed to claims 9-21, and new claims 22 and 23.

Applicants also note the claims are amended by the present response to clarify features recited therein. Specifically, each of claims 9-21 is amended to now be directed to a “semiconductor device” and to refer to a “semiconductor chip”. The amendments are believed to clarify the claims, but clearly each of claims 9-21 is still directed to the same elected invention.

The present response also sets forth new dependent claims 22 and 23 for examination. Those new claims are believed to clearly be part of the invention II elected above, particularly as those claims depend from respective claims 9 and 15, which are part of the elected invention. Thus, new dependent claims 22-23 are also included in the elected invention.

Applicants also traverse the outstanding restriction requirement as it clearly cannot be the case that there would be an undue burden to examine all of the claims together.

As noted in M.P.E.P. § 803:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.


The outstanding Office Action clearly has not established that there would be a serious burden to examine each of the claims together. Applicants respectfully note that is also clearly the case as previously each of the claims has been examined together.

Thus, the outstanding restriction requirement is traversed.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination of the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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